

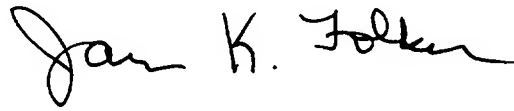
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this restriction requirement because Applicants submit that it does not appear as though a serious burden would exist if both Groups were to be examiner together. Initially, only two claims (Claims 36 and 42) are directed to the non-elected group. Moreover, independent Claim 34 is generic to Species 4 (of Group I) and Species 5-7 (of Group 2). Therefore, minimal, if any, additional searching is believed to be required if both groups and all of the claims were examined together. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that a search of both Groups 1 and 2 would most likely not pose a serious burden upon the Examiner.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn and that all of the claims be examined together.

Respectfully Submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.



By

James K. Folker
Registration No. 37,538

July 30, 2003

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Tel.: (312) 360-0080
Fax: (312) 360-9315
Customer No. 24978

K:\3408\65878\election2.doc